



NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

TODD P. GRAVES

Contact Don Ledford, Public Affairs • (816) 426-4220 • 400 East Ninth Street, Room 5510 • Kansas City, MO 64106

www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

UPDATE: PROJECT CEASEFIRE
**THREE-TIME BURGLAR SENTENCED TO 24 YEARS
FOR ILLEGAL POSSESSION OF FIREARM**

KANSAS CITY, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that a Kansas City, Mo., man was sentenced in federal court today after being convicted by a federal jury of being a felon in possession of two firearms and ammunition.

Darrell D. Walker, 37, of Kansas City, was sentenced by U.S. Chief District Judge Dean Whipple this afternoon to 24 years and five months in federal prison without parole.

On Dec. 7, 2004, a federal jury found **Walker** guilty of two counts of being a felon in possession of a firearm and one count of being a felon in possession of ammunition. The federal jury found that **Walker** was in possession of a Hawes .22-caliber revolver on Jan. 14, 2002, a Colt .45-caliber handgun on Oct. 29, 2002, and two rounds of ammunition on Oct. 29, 2002. Under federal law, Graves explained, it is illegal for any felon to be in possession of any firearm or ammunition. **Walker** has a 1996 criminal felony conviction for sale of a controlled substance and 1995, 1990, and 1989 criminal felony convictions for burglary. **Walker** is classified as an armed career criminal because he was found in possession of a firearm after having been convicted of three or more violent felonies or serious drug offenses, Graves said.

Law enforcement officers initially arrested **Walker** on Jan. 14, 2002, after he was observed in public yelling obscenities and pulling up his sweatshirt and placing his hand on a revolver, which was located in his pants. **Walker** was arrested a second time on Oct. 29, 2002, on an outstanding warrant at 3724 Indiana, in Kansas City. At the time, the officers observed **Walker** leave the residence in a white 2000 Mercury Villager. Shortly after, the officers stopped the vehicle and placed **Walker** into custody. The officers located the handgun and ammunition during a routine search of the vehicle.

Walker was originally charged with being a felon in possession of a firearm in an

indictment returned by a federal grand jury on June 12, 2002, in Kansas City. That indictment was later replaced by a superseding indictment returned by a federal grand jury on Feb. 3, 2003.

This case was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Rudolph R. Rhodes, IV. It was investigated by the Kansas City, Mo., Police Department and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives.

Project Ceasefire

Project Ceasefire, launched in October 1999, is a cooperative initiative by federal and local law enforcement and the Kansas City Crime Commission that targets for federal prosecution persons who unlawfully use or possess firearms.

This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at

www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow